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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Bowles et al.

Art Unit: TBD

Serial No: TBD

Examiner: TBD

Filed: 12/07/00

Docket No.: TI-24521

For: METHOD FOR UNPATTERNED RESIST ETCH BACK OF SHALLOW  
TRENCH ISOLATION REFILL INSULATOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

December 7, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above referenced application as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 1, before line 1, insert --This application claims priority under 35 USC §

119(e)(1) of provisional application numbers 60/171,694 filed 12/22/99.--